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N. E. FARMER.

CULTURE OF CORN.

Corn is unquestionably the most valuable grain crop which is raised in the United States. So much, however, has lately been written upon its culture, that little new can be said upon this subject. It is well known that it is a gross feeder, and land can scarcely be made too rich for it. Proper hoeing, frequent stirring of the earth with the plow or cultivator between the rows, and above all, keeping the weeds down, are quite as essential as a rich soil. There is one point in the culture of corn, and a pretty important one, too, which seems to remain in dispnte, and that is regarding the breaking of the roots by deep plowing between the rows. The late Judge Buel contended that this was very injurious; while an equally eminent authority, Judge Beatty, of Kentucky, has come to the conclusion, after careful experiment, that cutting the smaller roots by the plow, or otherwise, to a moderate extent, is not injurious to the crop; for, says he, the main roots will thereby throw out innumerable others in their place, and to a much more diversified extent. We will here make a suggestion of our own. Does not the cutting off a few of the smaller corn-roots act upon the stalks in the same manner as root-pruning of fruit trees? When the growth of the tree is too rank, we know that root-pruning has the effect of checking the production of wood in the tree, and of causing it to produce more fruit. Why, then, will not the root-pruning of corn add to its increase of grain? We should be very glad if some of our readers would make a series of experiments on this crop the coming season, with a view of testing the merits of the two different methods of culture. We apprehend that when the soil is very rich, and there is a tendency of the corn running too much to stalk, cutting the roots would be advantageous; but where the land was rather poor, and no such result likely to ensue, that cutting or breaking the roots in its culture, would be injurious. However, this is a mere matter of speculation with us, and till some reliable experiments are made in different kinds of soil, the same season, and with rows side by side, a mere opinion on this subject should have little weight with the practical farmer.

Corn for Fodder.—The culture of corn for summer soiling and winter fodder, is greatly on the increase, and demands attention. From experiments made by several of our friends last season, in growing corn for soiling, they found that such as was sown in drills about one foot apart, did much better than that sown broad-cast; and that the varieties of sweet corn which produce tall slender stalks, and the most leaves, gave the best and greatest amount of fodder. They infer that there was more saccharine matter in the stalks from these varieties, and the cattle, consequently, found it more palatable and nutritious.

Corn may be planted for fodder till the 20th of this month, north of 40 degrees; farther south, still later.—*American Agriculturist.*

PRODUCTIVE FARMS.

To a person not familiarly acquainted with the history and statistics of English husbandry, the extreme productiveness of the farms of that country, will appear incredible. Nearly nine-tenths of the cultivated land in Great Britain and Ireland, are rented to tenants, who pay, usually, from four to five pounds sterling per acre annual rent. Where is the farmer, in this country, who could live under such a burden? Here, a farm comprising a hundred acres, is often rented for one hundred dollars, and even at this rate, the tenant has a hard task. The cultivation, even where there are a large number of acres in grass, will little more than pay the rent and taxes; but in England the result is widely different. The tenant who there pays five pounds sterling, per acre, annual rent, and finds all appliances, obtains not only a comfortable living, but in many cases wealth, from the prosecution of a business which here, with like burdens, would doom him to want and misery.

In 1811, Irwin estimated the produce of one English farm of 890 acres, at £8,578—or $38,000! The quantity of manure applied was 13,746 one-horse cartloads in one year, and 10,250 the next! Now, admitting the rent of this farm to be $12 per acre, and the cost of manure and its application $12 more; and if to this sum we add, for interest, or expenses, taxes, and the various contingent expenses of cultivation, &c., $12 more, we shall find upon striking the balance, that there will remain a profit of $10 the acre, amounting in the gross aggregate, to the sum of $10,000 clear gain to the tenant in a single year!

In the vicinity of London, a hay farm comprising 160 acres, was rented. The rental in this instance, was $12 per acre, amounting in the whole to $1920 per year. A very heavy expenditure was required for manure—probably as much as many a New England farmer would have been willing to give for the land, and yet the tenant succeeded, and has since become wealthy, and with no other income than the produce of his farm.

In Ireland, a poor tenant hired an acre of land, erected his cottage, purchased manure and farming tools, and the first season cleared all expenses and had a balance of £8 left. And yet that Irish peasant, in addition to the expenses and outlays above enumerated, had a church tax to pay, and to be at the expense of purchasing his own seed, and maintaining a family of four besides himself and wife. The frugality of the Irish peasantry is proverbial. But there was something more than mere frugality at the bottom of this man's success. There was *thorough cultivation*—a thing which in New England may be said to be wholly unknown. This is the mystery, and the only one. That Irish peasant, with like expenses, would have starved here on forty acres, with our cultivation.—*Connecticut Courant.*

The Greenfield Democrat says that the silk factory in that town continues to operate in a flourishing manner. Some forty or fifty hands are employed, and the agent advertises for fifty more girls.

THE "SKIM-MILK" CONTROVERSY.

To the Editor of the New England Farmer:

Dear Sir—I have no desire to prolong the "battle" between my humble self and my formidable opponent, "A Skim-milker," and I freely accord him all the laurels that have been won;—but you will give me leave to "define my position," as the politicians say—in other words, to exculpate myself from an imputation which I conceive may rest upon me, from a remark in his last communication.

I say to him, plainly, (and you, sir, can attest the truth of my asseverations,) that I have not—I never had—the slightest possible interest in Col. Jaques' stock—no more than I have in "A Skim-milker's"—that I am hardly acquainted with Col. J., otherwise than by reputation, never having exchanged a dozen words with him in my life;—that I only referred to him as authority, because, on the points on which I quoted him, I knew he had the reputation of being a skilful judge; and because I had heard much of his success as a breeder of stock;—that, further, I know nothing of the character of the stock now on his farm, and have no more interest in it than in any other man's stock;—that, lastly, if Col. J. has made use of any means to "puff" his stock into celebrity, and a celebrity *not deserved*, as "A Skim-milker" seems to insinuate,) *I*, surely, have not been one of the instruments he has used for that purpose;—and I *hope* I *may say*, without subjecting myself to the charge of boasting of my virtue, that I am not so lamentably destitute of conscienciousness, as to be capable, either from selfish or other motives, of "puffing" *any* man's stock as superior to another's, when no proofs of such superiority were in my possession. And further I have not to say.

Very respectfully,

June 8, 1844. ANTI-SKIMMILKER.

Apply your Ashes—It is asserted by those whose assurance is deserving of regard, that for every bushel of common house-ashes, applied to the hills of Indian corn, there will be a corresponding addition to the crop, and an almost complete exemption of the plants from the vernal ravages of slugs and worms. The most proper time for applying ashes to this crop, is just after the plants get up, and while the roots being yet in their nascent state, are not in a condition to collect the elements of food from but a limited range. We have heard of several failures this season, in consequence of applying ashes in the hill; a practice which is sure to result fatally to the seed, unless their alkalescent qualities be, in some measure, neutralized by the interposition of a stratum of dirt.—*Maine Cult.*

Flowers.—The lovers of sweet flowers may derive advantage from the knowledge that gravelly or sandy soils promote the aroma. Those flowers of perfume are natives of the sandy lands, Persia, Arabia, &c., and those in pots should therefore be supplied with sand or gravel.—*Michigan Far.*

Rather go to bed supperless than rise in debt.—*Franklin.*

From the Chester (England) Farmer's Herald.

PEAT COMPOST.

The following method of making peat compost, is given by Mr Aiton, and inserted in Sir John Sinclair's Scotch Husbandry :

The peat and dung must be thrown up, in alternate strata, into a heap four and a half feet high, and in the following proportions: peat six inches; dung ten inches; peat six inches; dung four inches; peat six inches; and then a thin bed of dung, and cover the whole with peat. The heap should be put loosely together, and then made smooth on the outside. The compost, after it is made up, gets into a general heat, sooner or later, according to the weather and the condition of the dung; in summer, in ten days or sooner; in winter, not perhaps for many weeks, if the cold is severe. It always, however, has been found to come on at last; and in summer it sometimes rises so high as to be mischievous, by producing what is called *fire-fanging*.

In that season, a stick should be kept in it, in different parts, to pull out and feel now and then; for if it approaches to blood heat, it should be either watered or turned over; and on such occasion, advantage may be taken to mix with it a little fresh peat. The heat subsides after a time, and the heap may then be allowed to remain untouched until within three weeks of using, when it should be turned over, upside down, and inside out, and all the lumps broken. Use it weight for weight, like farm-yard dung, and it will be found to stand the comparison with that.

Let it be observed, that the object of making up the compost is to form as large a hot-bed as the quantity of dung admits of, and then to surround it on all sides, so as to have the whole benefit of the heat and effluvia. Peat, nearly as dry as garden mould, in seed-time, may be mixed with the dung, so as to double the volume and more, and nearly triple the weight, and instead of hurting the heat, prolong it. A correspondent of Sir John Sinclair's, states that he has used this compost for seven years, and considers it to be of immense importance. He would rather bring peat two or three miles, than want it for his compost hills.

In this process of making compost, a large quantity of almost inert humus is broken down, and rendered fit to yield abundant nourishment to plants, both in the shape of carbonic acid gas, and also saline matter; while the ammonia, produced by the fermentation of the dung, is absorbed and retained by the humus.

In all cases where peat can be had for the purpose of making compost, experience has shown there can be no question about the propriety and advantage of using it for that purpose. The effects of peat-ashes are well known; and in this case the saline and earthy substances, of which they are composed, are made available, as well as the humus, which is retained instead of being dissipated, as in the case of burning.

It often happens that all the dung upon a farm cannot be used at the most fitting season, and must be kept for a future occasion; much care is therefore required to prevent its being wasted, either by fermentation or from the effect of water. The method above noticed, of mixing the dung with peat, can be practiced only in particular situations, but every situation admits of the formation of compost heaps by means of mixing earth of some kind or other. It is usual to form compost by mixing the dung with any kind of soil that happens to be most convenient; but it is by no means an unimportant question as to *what kind* of material is the best for the purpose. The muddy deposit of tide-ways, the sediment of ponds, and the scouring of ditches, are the first to be recommended; next, calcareous road-scrapings, marl, and clay. In making an earthy compost with dung, there is a three-fold object answered: first, to prevent the too rapid decay of the dung; secondly, to present an earthy substance to the slowly decaying matter which is capable of uniting with it, and preserving the ammonia; and thirdly, to afford some addition of saline matter, which most earths contain. The most finely divided earths are, of course, the best adapted for these purposes, and perhaps a rich marly earth should be preferred to any other, from its known fertilizing qualities, while there is considerable uncertainty in that of the other materials mentioned. It is seldom, however, that much choice can be exercised. In forming a compost heap, a bed of the earth should be first laid down, about six inches deep, and then a layer of dung about a foot deep, lightly and regularly laid upon the earth. Let the alternation be repeated until the heap is about five feet high; a thin covering of earth, both on the top and sides, completing the whole. In about ten weeks, the heap should be turned and well mixed, and again covered with a slight coating of fresh earth.

Wherever *night-soil* can be obtained in any quantity, the forming it into a compost, so as to preserve it from waste and render it fit for the drill, is an object of great importance, as it is much too powerful to be used in the crude state, and indeed cannot be conveniently distributed in that condition. In China, this most valuable material is mixed with fat marl, formed into cakes, and then dried in the sun, and in this state is transported to great distances by means of the numerous rivers and canals which intersect that country. The best mode of treating night-soil for the purpose intended, is to mix it with about double its bulk of charred or half-burnt peat, which will arrest its decomposition and by so doing, render it inoffensive. When peat cannot be obtained, finely sifted coal-ashes is a good substitute.

In situations where *kelp* ashes can be procured, it would form an excellent addition to any of these mixtures, as it would supply those salts in which night-soil is rather deficient. Lime should in no case be resorted to, as it very much injures its quality by driving off ammonia. The materials should be well mixed, and spread either under a shed, or in the open air, until dry enough to be riddled for the use of the drill. In order to promote the drying, the compost should be frequently turned over. About 20 bushels of such a compost will be a powerful dressing for an acre of land.

Whenever both peat and lime are available, they form a very good compost for manuring pasture land. The mode of preparing this compost may be in the usual way, of alternate layers, the peat being used in a double or triple proportion to the lime. The heap should be suffered to remain three or four months, during which time it should be turned and well mixed. The lime acts very powerfully upon the inert fibre of the peat, and renders a large portion of it soluble in water, and in a fit state for becoming the food of plants.

Any refuse animal matter can of course be employed in a similar manner. The carcase of a dead horse, which is often suffered to pollute the air with its noxious effluvia, has been happily employed in decomposing 20 tons of peat earth, and transforming it into the most enriching manure. Night-soil may be composted with peat with great advantage.

Many volumes have been written on the subject of composts, as substitutes for farm yard dung, and yet the true principle upon which they should be formed, does not appear to have been clearly inculcated and insisted upon. Farm-yard dung is certain in its effect, because it contains all the elements or substances which plants require for their food; and those composite manures which contain the greatest number of the more essential substances are the most likely to act with corresponding uniformity.

MANURES.

It is well known to every cultivator of the soil, that no land will continue productive, if some equivalent for its produce be not returned to it. If the land is always yielding and never receiving, it must in a short time become barren. However, there are particular soils, like those of Egypt, which, being annually overflowed, derive a valuable manure from the hand of Nature, and therefore cannot be rendered barren by bad husbandry or over-cropping. There are also some soils in our own country, which are not easily exhausted, in consequence of being composed of materials which attract and retain the food of plants. Taking these things into consideration, we consider it a duty incumbent on all cultivators of the soil, to use every means to promote its fertility, in the most simple and efficacious manner. We are fully convinced that if more attention were paid to the making and saving of farm-yard manure, instead of running after every new importation, they would, at the end of the year, find their purses heavier, and their land in better heart.

In the north of Scotland, the small farmers and cottagers pay great attention to the making of manure by their pigs, by bedding them with leaves, moss, rushes, grass, fern; all of which materials make excellent manure when trodden under foot and saturated with the urine of animals. We have lately noticed, in some parts of Ireland, bog-earth employed for bedding cows and pigs; this material makes an excellent manure, especially if it has been well saturated with the urine of the cattle. We have seen better crops produced from land which has been manured with these materials, than the produce of any of our new importations. We do not wish, however, to condemn these imported manures, but we would have farmers pay more attention to the making of manure on their farms, and when made, not to allow it to manure the atmosphere instead of the soil, which we are sorry to say is too common a practice.

We would recommend farmers to adopt the following plan: To every two cartloads of farm-yard manure, add one of the scourings of ditches, road-scrapings, or a matted sward; if these materials are properly mixed with the dung, he will be amply compensated for any additional expense. The use of mixing the soil with the dung, is to imbibe the gaseous elements, and hinder their dissipation. Whenever putrid fermentation is going on in his dung-hill, he should apply some earthy substance in sufficient quantity to imbibe and retain all effluvia. Health, profit, and cleanliness require such a proceeding. The farmer who arrests the rank va-

pors which emanate from decaying animal and vegetable matter, instead of permitting them to pass into, and contaminate the air he breathes, causes the atmosphere to be healthy, and supplies his crops with an invaluable food.—*J. Mc I., in the London Gardener's Chronicle.*

From the London Gardener's Chronicle.

EXPERIMENTS WITH DIFFERENT MANURES ON THE POTATO CROP.

The following experiments on the application of various manures to the potato crop, were tried last season, and as the mode of culture adopted differs from the usual practice, a few words of explanation on that subject are necessary. The land was of very superior quality, consisting of a moderately tenacious clay, through which a considerable portion of an impure carbonate of lime is interspersed. It had been previously many years in grass. The potatoes were planted on the 15th of April. The ridges were five feet wide, five sets being placed across the ridges, being thus nearly a foot distant across, and nearly eighteen inches in the other direction. These were covered about three inches deep with the earth out of the furrows. Before the young shoots had reached the surface through their covering, the various manures were spread on the surface, in the proportions stated below. An additional covering of earth, two inches deep, was then put over the ridges. The application of the manures and the covering of earth took place the same day, on the 20th of May. On the 15th of June, the spaces between the rows across the ridges, were loosened by the hoe and drawn up to the stems of the plants, forming, in fact, drills as it were, across the ridges. The potatoes were taken up on the 10th of October, and the following table exhibits the results :—

Kind of manure.	*Quantity per acre.*	*Produce per acre.* Tons.	Cwt.
Guano,	3 cwt.	19	11
Bone dust,	18 bush.	15	13
Nitrate of soda,	2 cwt.	16	19
Nitrate of potash,	2 cwt.	15	5
Muriate of ammonia,	2 cwt.	17	15
Salt and quick-lime, in equal quantities,	8 cwt.	14	17
Farm-yard manure,	10 tons,	16	3
No manure applied,		13	10

The farm-yard manure was that of the preceding season, which had remained over in the yard, and was well decomposed. Each of the other manures was mixed with a small portion of dried earth a few days before being applied. The common salt was obtained from a provision store, and contained a considerable portion of animal matter, as blood and pieces of fat, though its effects in combination with the lime, were not very great. The whole of the manures applied were successful, in so far as having considerably overpaid the original outlay. Another circumstance I may here mention as worthy of observation:—The produce of two equal portions of the crop to which no manure had been applied, the earth in one case having been hoed between the plants and drawn up to their stems, and the other not, showed clearly the advantage of the former treatment, the difference in produce being no less than one ton and three quarters per acre. W. SMYTH.

There are no gains without pains.—*Franklin.*

THE BIRDS AND THEIR USEFULNESS.

"*Audi Alteram Partem.*"

☞We were perfectly astounded upon reading the following remarks by the worthy and much respected editor of the Boston Courier. While we hardly dare to controvert what he says in respect to the robin's characteristics, we must express our surprise that we should have so long entertained a belief which the editor of the Courier considers fallacious. But our friend Buckingham generally looks well to the strength of his armament before he commences an attack, and he *may* be as well fortified in *this* case as usual. Let him not, however, think to escape without a shot from some quarter. The robin's friends are legion, and we anxiously wait to see what defence they can make. *Our* prejudices are in favor of the birds—but, "*fiat justitia, ruat cœlum*"—let justice be done, &c.:

From the Boston Courier.

"The popular impression that robins and other birds feed upon caterpillars and canker-worms, we believe to be entirely unfounded. What a robin might do, in case he should be in extraordinary hunger, we do not know. We have often seen birds eat the long red worm, which is so plentiful in wet, black mould, usually called the angle-worm, and other worms which live in the earth, and sometimes come to its surface in search of food, or to breathe the upper air; but we have never seen one eat a caterpillar, a canker-worm, or any other worm that infests the branches of trees or the tops of other vegetables. We have watched pretty carefully, the operations both of birds and worms, for a number of years. Robins and caterpillars are, apparently, very civil neighbors to each other. They build their nests on the same tree, at one and the same time, within a few feet of each other; at a time, too, when there is no fruit on which the bird can feed; and yet, who ever saw a robin eat a caterpillar? We expect, as soon, to see a caterpillar make his dinner upon a robin.

The robin is truly an exceedingly pleasant companion. His song is the most cheerful of any, always excepting that of that merry chatterer, the bob-o-link; and he gives us a concert every day through half the year. But his concerts are not given gratis. He contrives to get his pay for the whole season in cherry time. He is the most bold and arrant swindler that walks on two legs. He is a hypocritical, uncivil, unprincipled, unchristian-like thief. He sings among the branches of your cherry tree, and then steals your cherries, or makes a dive at your strawberries. He is a dainty rascal, too, for he seldom takes a whole cherry. He only pecks off the side next the sun, as soon as it begins to turn red, leaving the remainder to perish, unfit to be eaten by man or bird.

We have no canker-worms within our borders—no thanks to the robins; and the few caterpillars that ventured upon our trees, we have destroyed without the aid of birds, to whom the intrusion of the worms was doubtless a matter of indifference."

Strawberries.—Great efforts are making in the western country to perfect the culture of the strawberry. Mr Culbertston, of Kentucky, residing on the banks of the Licking river, keeps 60 hands constantly employed in picking strawberries, and sends 125 bushels *daily* to the Cincinnati market.—*Bost. Trans.* [A large story, that.]

THE SYCAMORES.

A friend residing in the town of Dedham, has made a discovery in relation to this noble tree, and the cause of their decline in health and strength, which of late years has excited so much mutual inquiry and investigation. We copy part of a hasty note received from this gentleman on Saturday, and hope that the investigation which he has undertaken, may yet be further pursued. He writes:

"Do you find anything in your 'exchanges' about the sick sycamores this year? I closely investigated the state of our old buttonwoods at Dedham, last week, and I think I have made a discovery, of which, if no one else speaks, I will tell the Transcript. *Frosts*, according to what I have seen, have nothing to do with it. The proofs seem to me indubitable, that an insect (say a single insect to a dozen leaves or more) of the Rose Aphis size, or perhaps a little larger, by poisoning the leaf-stalk, gradually causes the leaf itself to shrivel, as I have observed, though no frost be nigh. I think I cannot be mistaken, for with mine own eyes I have seen the enemy, and I have remarked the partially embrowned stem, too, from which depended the as yet perfect leaf, whilst, near by, others had begun to wither, having their foot-stalks seemingly fully empoisoned. Thus, of course, the growth of the tree is checked, save, indeed, at *the top*, where there is always the greatest vigor, and where the most powerful head-current (if I may so call it) of sap, sets the work of the envious and malignant poisoner at defiance. This effect has been remarked during the two or three past summers, and it is again clearly visible all over the country, and even on Boston Common. At Dedham, by the way, it should be stated, that *we have had no frosts*, save enough once or twice to whiten the meadows a little, since the leaf-buds began to expand, which they did most freely, though *late*, and the time they took to do it, is not to be wondered at, when we consider how much two or three years of suffering has weakened the poor trees."—*Bost. Transcript.*

Value of Agricultural Papers.—Mr Alexander McDonald, in the American Agriculturist, says:

"I have been a subscriber to agricultural papers for more than 20 years, and have paid for them over $100; and though I cultivate but a small farm, I am fully convinced that I have never laid out money, as a farmer, that has yielded me the same interest as that invested in the purchase of these valuable journals. It is not that a farmer can in such works learn everything he may want to know, or that he will be told every thing that relates to his every-day business; but one of the greatest advantages to be derived from their perusal, is, the turning the mind to reflection—the cautions given—the suggestions hinted at—and the general principles inculcated."

The Culture of Pumpkins and Squashes on Grass land, is spoken of in Mr Ellsworth's report as an excellent mode. Holes were dug and filled with manure proper for vines, and the seed planted. The vines did not begin to run till after the grass was mowed for hay. By the time the meadow was wanted for fall pasture, the squashes were fit to be taken from the vines. The product indicated that an acre, of 90 hills, planted by this mode, would give about 18 tons of pumpkins or squashes.

For the N. E. Farmer.

CLOSE PLANTING CORN.

Mr Editor—In a communication of May 1st, 1844, your correspondent L. B. very correctly supposes it important for farmers to publish the results of unsuccessful experiments. It tends to prevent the wide extension, and consequent mischievous effects of merely fanciful theories. But in the statement of an unsuccessful experiment, we should be very careful to enumerate all the probable causes which were combined in producing the result. This, we think, L. B. has not satisfactorily done. The comparative failure of his second experiment in planting Indian corn, he seems to ascribe exclusively to close planting. That the corn was planted too thick for the preparation of the soil, may be true; yet we are confident other causes were in operation in the production of a diminished crop. Suppose he had planted precisely in the manner of the preceding year, would his harvest have been as large? Certainly not, even if he had manured somewhat more liberally. Indian corn does not find a sufficiency of its most appropriate food when planted in succession of years in the same field. Repeated planting tends to multiply the enemies which annoy the corn plants. It is not improbable the yellowness of the stalks, which was mentioned as appearing about the first of August, was produced chiefly by the preying of worms at the roots. We have not noticed this appearance as common, in corn sown broadcast for fodder.

L. B. should have taken another piece of land of similar soil with that on which his first crop of corn was raised, to have made a fair comparative experiment between his own manner of planting and that of Mr Phelps, to which he refers. The result might have been in favor of the first method of planting: that was probably sufficiently close for the strength of the soil and the preparation of the field; but the difference probably would not have been near as great as in the reported experiment.

It is a general error in this Commonwealth, to put too little seed of Indian corn on the acre. There is an opposite extreme, but few farmers are likely to run into it; they are far more likely, on the suggestion that close planting is wrong, to make their rows so wide apart that a New York wagon might be driven through without touching the corn on either side. This error makes unnecessary labor, exposes too much naked soil to the direct influences of the summer sun, and therefore reduces the land with a comparatively small crop, even more than an ample one would occasion. Light and a sufficiency of moisture, are very necessary to the health and vigor of plants, but light will, unobstructed, pass through a cavity less than three feet wide, and moisture will be better retained where plants are so near together as to require *all* the ground to be stirred in the dressings, than where they stand so far apart that the middle of the rows receive little or no attention. Overseeding is a manifest evil, and may be common in this country in the vine family, and some other vegetables of the garden, but in field culture, the opposite error is far more prevalent. We reduce fields by severe cropping, and then reduce the quantity of seed, in the hope that a few plants will prosper. Experience has already proved that the ultimate effect of this course will be the entire exhaustion of fields. It is time for us to retrace our steps, and prepare fields to receive the proper quantities of seed and no longer fruitlessly labor to apportion seed to the reduced state of soils. The crop harvested by Mr Phelps, seems a fair justification of his method of planting. It may be well for farmers here to inquire whether it be not practicable to raise our fields to a state which would fairly admit an equal quantity of seed, rather than censure a method which proved so successful.

M. ALLEN.

Pembroke, May 30, 1844.

☞Our much esteemed correspondent has our thanks for the above communication. His views upon agricultural topics always carry with them great weight, and those above are in accordance with our own opinions.—Ed.

CULTURE OF THE POTATO.

We have read hundreds of essays on the culture of the potato, and yet among them all, we do not find any general, fixed rules in regard to the best method of producing a crop. When carrying on our own farm, we made various experiments during a series of years in this matter, and the following is the result:

1. If the season proved a dry one, the plantings from whole tubers of the largest sizes, produced the greatest yield. The reason of this, we inferred, was, that large tubers gave the growing crop a greater amount of nourishment than smaller ones or cuttings could.

2. If the season proved wet, then little or no difference was found between cuttings, or small or large tubers.

3. We never obtained a greater quantity, nor so *good a quality* of potatoes, as when planted on sod turned up after the grass got well started, the first week in June; and we do believe, where a pleasant flavored, mealy root is desired, that a grass ley fresh turned over, is the very best preparation for a crop that can be made. By allowing the grass to get a good start before plowing, it assists greatly in the rapid decomposition of the sod; and this, with its roots, have proved with us the sweetest and best elements out of which to form potatoes.

4. By manuring highly with fresh barn-yard manure, poudrette, guano, fish, sea-weed, or indeed any strong, rank, highly fertilizing substance, a large crop is generally obtained, but we have invariably found that it was at the expense of its *quality*—the potatoes proving more or less watery, and frequently possessing a strong, tangy taste; and as nutriment for either man or beast, we fully believe that the same kind raised upon fresh turned up sod, is worth 50 per cent more than that produced from ground where rank unrotted manures are applied. If the land could be subsoil-plowed as the sod is turned up, we have not a doubt, especially in rather a dry season, but it would add considerably to the productiveness of the crop.

5. A top-dressing of lime and charcoal is the best preventive we know of against insects and disease.

6. The after-culture is so well understood in this country, that we need not dwell upon it. Twice hoeing is as good as more; and the hills or rows never should be disturbed after the blossoms have appeared, as this injures the growth of the tubers already set, and causes the roots to throw out new ones. We have heard a great deal said by some experimenters about the *non-necessity* of hilling potatoes abundantly. We can assure our readers from repeated experiments we have made, that the potato delights in an accumulated, wide-spread, mellow bed; and unless this is provided, you cannot expect, except in the richest and most friable soils, a large crop. Our emphatic advice, therefore, in the after-culture of the potato, is, to turn with a wide plow, all the good top-soil between the rows to the plants; first, soon after their appearance above the ground, and second, just before the vine blossoms; but in doing this, be careful not to bury the tubers too deep. This should then be followed with the hoe, gathering the fine soil nicely about the vines, and leaving their beds with a flat top rather than a steep roof shape. In this way, they preserve the moisture better, and present a broader surface to the growing and invigorating influences of the light and sun. We usually plant in drills 3 feet apart, the sets 6 inches apart in the drills. When a top-dressing of lime is not convenient, ashes are excellent, at the rate of a pint or so round each stalk, or plaster, at the rate of a table-spoonful. Either of these greatly stimulate the growth. We wish the growers of the potato could be induced to pay more attention to the *quality* of this important crop than has usually been done.—*Amer. Agriculturist.*

[In behalf of the Boston folks, we second that wish.—Ed. Far.]

From the Maine Farmer.

TAKE GOOD CARE OF YOUR ORCHARDS.

Mr. Holmes:—The raising of good apples is beginning to be appreciated by the farmers of this State, as its importance demands. There are many excellent varieties of apples which are natives of this State, but are not considered so valuable for shipping purposes as some other kinds. The Roxbury Russett, (a native of Massachusetts we believe,) has gained great celebrity abroad as the best variety to keep for a long time, and is therefore most valuable for exportation. In this respect it is excelled by no other variety within our knowledge, and may be cultivated with great advantage as a sure source of yearly income. Those who have cultivated this fruit to any considerable extent in Maine, have never failed of finding a ready sale and obtaining a fair price for it. The more common kinds may be raised and turned to good account for feeding cattle and hogs, and have been found by the experience of those who have used them for this purpose, to form a good substitute for turnips, potatoes, &c., while they may be produced with much less labor, after the expense of setting out the trees, and taking care of them for the first few years, has been incurred.

Some farmers are frequently heard to complain that their orchards occupy the best of their land, and that it would be more profitable for them if they were removed. This is true, no doubt, in many instances where their orchards are old and have been neglected and suffered to run to decay so that they produce but very little fruit, and that of an inferior quality. There is room, however, for great improvement in the quality and quantity of fruit, without being liable to this objection. There are many places on almost every farm where the apple tree would thrive well, and would do no injury to any other crop. The margins of your fields may all be occupied with a row of trees, set so near the fence as to occupy but little room and cause no inconvenience to the cultivator. We

know of a thrifty farmer in the good town of W. in this county, who raises yearly, from seventy to a hundred bushels of fine fruit from trees set by the road side, occupying only about three quarters of a mile or a mile in extent, while the cost of taking care of them, aside from gathering the fruit is but a mere trifle. The practice of setting out fruit trees by the road side cannot be too highly commended, and must speak in unequivocal language to the passing stranger, of the industry and good taste of the people where such improvements, blending the useful with the beautiful, are seen.

Yet there appears to be an unpardonable apathy among some farmers in relation to raising fruit. Whether it is the fear that a little time and labor spent in setting out trees will never be repaid to them, unless they have a longer life to live than usually falls to the lot of mortals, or whether it is want of energy or lack of faith as to the amount of profit that an orchard would yield them, is hard to tell. As a general thing, some 10 or 12 years must elapse from the time an orchard is planted before it can be expected to be very prolific in bearing fruit. This length of time, no doubt, lies far beyond the *mental vision* of those who enjoy the fruition of other men's labor, and have nothing to do but to gather fruit from trees which were planted by the industry and faithfulness of their fathers. Had the first settlers of Maine practiced upon the narrow and selfish policy of neglecting every improvement, the benefit of which could not be fully realized in their day, the present inhabitants might employ themselves in the long winter evening by cracking *acorns*, and hulling *beechnuts*, instead of having a good supply of *Baldwins*, *Russetts*, and other choice and new varieties of fruit.

If you have neglected to plant a nursery or to set out trees this spring, it may be best to make a virtue of necessity, and defer it till another spring, when you should by no means fail of setting out a row of apple trees. And if you are not permitted to eat of the fruit thereof, those who shall live after you will thereby be reminded of your having done, at least, one good deed. You should, also, bestow increased attention upon the trees which you now have. Some people are inclined to think a visit to the orchard once a year, and then in the autumn for the purpose of securing the fruit, is all that is necessary. But this is not so; a little attention in the spring, by way of judicious pruning, and seeing that the caterpillars and other pests of the orchard are destroyed, will yield as great, if not greater return, as labor expended in any other way.

Will you who have orchards, attend to this in season, and secure to yourselves a supply of good fruit, or will you neglect it year after year, and be content with a mean and dwarfish specimen just fit to *insult* your hogs with? One thing is pretty certain, if you do thus neglect your best interest, you will soon be convinced of the truth, that "*no man can gather figs of thistles or grapes of thorns.*"

"OLD ORCHARD."

Farmington, May, 1844.

A correspondent of the Prairie Farmer says that a lady of his acquaintance, colors wool and woolen goods blue, with *purslane*, a common garden weed, and that the lady assured him it was equal in every respect to the best indigo blue.

BEANS FOR SHEEP.

In regard to an article in the Maine Cultivator, highly recommending beans, also the pods and vines of this plant, for sheep, Dr. Lee, who is distinguished for applying science plainly and intelligibly to the practical purposes of life, makes the following remarks:

The Cultivator tells but half the story. Why is a gill of beans better for a sheep than a pint of corn? This is an important item in sheep husbandry; and one that not one flock-master in a thousand can answer.

If the object be to form *fat* in sheep, then the remark that beans are worth more than corn is not true. For corn contains more of the fat forming elements than beans. But if the object be to form *muscle* and *wool*, then the remark is true. Beans contain more of the elements of wool, than any other plant. Hence nature, ever true to herself, has endowed the sheep with a taste for this plant which is denied to the pig.

Peas, oats, barley and wheat also abound in the elements of wool; but in a less proportion. The liquid execrations of all animals furnish the largest, as well as the cheapest supply of the elements of cheese, wool, wheat, beans, &c.; and yet in consequence of our profound ignorance of the science of organic chemistry, the indispensable elements of our food and raiment are wastefully thrown away. Through inexcusable ignorance, our cultivators of the soil break the laws of nature, and that harmonious circle of cause and effect—composition and decomposition—which enables us "to reap our daily bread from human mould," as Young so truthfully expresses our dependant condition.—*Buffalo Commercial Advertiser.*

From the Maine Cultivator.

LIVE FENCE HEDGES.

Messrs. Editors—Some years since, during a visit to Boston, I crossed, in company with several friends, to the town of Chelsea, and while there, was very agreeably entertained at the house of Dr. Shurtleff, whose success in farming has been eminent, as well as his success in the cultivation of live fences, and other ornamental departments of the art. As to the species of trees selected by Dr. Shurtleff, he informed us that notwithstanding curiosity and common report had induced him to make trial of a great variety of trees, both exotic and indigenous, he had never as yet made trial of any, equal, in his opinion, to the common Maple thorn, (*Cratægus cordata.*) Other varieties, he remarked, were often destroyed by the *borer*, but that the maple thorn had never, to his knowledge, been infested by them, and that during the entire period he had cultivated the *cordata*, he had not lost from this cause, so much as a single tree.

Some plants of this variety, set the year before, had increased from two to three per cent. in size, and his loss, from all contingencies, fell somewhat short of one per cent., notwithstanding the situation was rather exposed, and the winter quite hard.

As to the cost of Dr. S.'s hedge, it is impressed upon my mind, though I cannot recollect with definiteness on this point now, that he informed me that the hedge, reckoning all expenses, direct and incidental,, did not amount to more than *fifty cents the rod.* The hedge, then in a perfect state, had occupied eight years in coming to maturity, and a more beautiful, *ornamental*, and durably efficient fence, my eyes never beheld. I have since been informed by a friend, personally familiar with the Doctor, that not more than *four* years are now required to grow a hedge.

Very respectfully,

A. McP——.

FARMING CAPITAL.

From a communication by Mr L. Durand, we make the following extracts:—"I think it correct to say, that a liberal expenditure of capital in farming, will ultimately pay better than when laid out in any other business. The difference between capital laid out in farming, and that laid out in manufacturing, is, that all which is expended in the latter beyond the actual profits of the goods manufactured, is a dead loss; while that which is laid out on the farm, under good management, causes it to improve and increase in value from year to year. In manufacturing, the interest on the capital may be received within six months or a year. In farming, it may not be so, but it will be sure to give its return in a series of years. Another item which has been much neglected by farmers, is that of purchasing *good implements* to carry on their farming operations. In this country, where manual labor is high, a farmer should obtain as many labor-saving implements as can be used to advantage. Although these implements may cost more at first than common ones do, they will find their account in it at last. Get the best implements to be had, even if you have to go out of the State for them."—*Alb. Cult.*

Plaster on Potatoes.—Those who plowed green sward last fall for the purpose of planting potatoes this spring, will find that a spoonful of plaster, applied as soon as the plants come up, will increase the yield. Plaster seems to aid the potato on all kinds of land, though not equally. We have seen soils where a table-spoonful of plaster proved as useful as a shovelful of manure.

If the land is in good order and the soil sufficiently mellow, the potato vines will need but very little hilling. The potatoes will make a bed for themselves in the rotting sod. We have raised at the rate of 400 bushels to the acre without hilling up enough to hide the plaster: it could be seen through the summer.—*Bost. Cult.*

Keeping Cows.—The keeping of cows is much like the cultivation of land. If the crop does not reach a certain amount, there is a loss to the farmer, or the crop may precisely equal his expenses, the year leaving him as it found him; but above all this, is profit, and the more he can increase this balance, the greater his gain. So with a cow; if she does not give a certain quantity, she does not pay for her keeping, and the more such cows a man has, the worse off he is. On the contrary, all above a given yield, is clear profit, and the farmer or dairyman, has every inducement to increase this amount as high as possible.—*Alb. Cult.*

An industrious and virtuous education of children is a better inheritance for them than a great estate. To what purpose is it, asks a heathen philosopher, to heap up riches and have no concern as to what manner of heirs you leave them to? The question is worthy of more than a passing thought: let it be well considered by every American father.—*Selected.*

NEW ENGLAND FARMER,
AND HORTICULTURAL REGISTER.

Edited by Joseph Breck.

Boston, Wednesday, June 12, 1844.

CULTIVATION OF THE SUN-FLOWER.

Mr Breck—The suggestion of your correspondent "D." in your paper of the 29th ult., relative to the raising of sun-flower seed for poultry, is well worthy of attention, as I can attest from experience. I do not esteem these seed *any* less valuable for fowls than oats. Three years ago, I saved upwards of *two bushels*, which were fed to my hens while they lasted, without grain of any kind; and I could not perceive that the fowls throve less well upon this feed than when kept on oats. I did not appropriate or prepare any particular spot for the sun-flowers, but planted them in waste places, which would not have been occupied with any thing valuable; and I recommend their culture in this way to all farmers, for the sake of the seed for fowls.

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PRUNING FRUIT TREES.

Having practiced for the last fifteen years the plan of pruning fruit trees late in June, and having succeeded by this course much better than formerly, when, according to general usage in my section, I pruned in May, (sometimes in April,) I feel authorized to recommend pruning in the latter part of June as preferable to any other time. I do not know that this accords with the experience of others, but I feel well assured that if any who doubt its superiority over other methods, will give it a fair trial, they will not abandon it. The wounds heal sooner by pruning at that period, than when done at any other which I have tried.

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HILLING AND NOT HILLING POTATOES.

The old practice of hilling corn (which never had any merit to recommend it, save its antiquity,) is now almost universally discarded by judicious farmers; and, from a small experiment I made last year, (and which I mean to extend this,) with respect to the comparative merits of hilling and not hilling potatoes, in hoeing, I am inclined to think that the same practice may well be discarded in the management of this crop also. I left two rows in the piece unhilled—that is, making only a very slight hill at the first hoeing, and not enlarging the hills at the two subsequent hoeings. The whole piece was hoed three times in the course of the season, and at each of these times the hills in all the rows save these two, were increased in size, as usual. At harvest, I measured the products of two rows on each side of the two unhilled, and the last gave *five pecks* more (and larger potatoes) than the mean product of the other four. By making large hills, I suspect we deprive the crop of an important share of the beneficial influences of the sun and atmospheric moisture.

Potatoes need a free and mellow bed to grow in, but this is not best secured by increasing the size of the hill *after* planting:—it should be done principally *before* that,—at least, so I have been led to think from recent observation.

It is hard for us to give up our old prejudices, and abandon our old practices; but self-interest—that omnipotent incentive—I think will, ere long, consign the practices of hilling corn and hilling potatoes, to the receptacle of things which the wiser-grown generations of the sons have discovered were unwise in their fathers.

Yours, truly, An Old Farmer.

L——, Mass, June 1st, 1844.

☞"An Old Farmer's" doctrine respecting hilling corn or potatoes, we believe to be correct. It will be seen by reading the article on another page on the culture of the potato, that we differ from the editor of the American Agriculturist in the matter of hilling potatoes. His experience is in favor of the practice—ours is not. We have experimented particularly with potatoes, and found that where no hill was made, but the ground kept perfectly light between the plants, the difference in favor of not hilling was very great. The ground, however, should be plowed deep and finely pulverized for potatoes, as well as corn, or any other crop. There is a great loss to the farmer by not giving the ground a thorough preparation to begin with.

"An Old Farmer" has our thanks for his valuable communication, and we are highly flattered by his note accompanying it. It is our great desire to make the paper interesting to our readers. From numerous sources we have had the approbation of valued correspondents, which encourages us to believe that our efforts are not altogether in vain. We have not the vanity, however, to publish these tokens of approbation, as is customary with some individuals.

MILDEW ON GRAPES.

One of the great obstacles in our climate, in cultivating the Sweetwater, and some other varieties of foreign grapes, is the *mildew*. As the season is now approaching when the young fruit will begin to set, we would recommend the following remedy to those who have been troubled with this difficulty in past years. The recipe was published in the New England Farmer about twelve years since, and as we have frequent inquiries as to what course to pursue in such cases, we republish it for the benefit of all interested in it. We know of no better remedy:—

"Take a pint and a half of sulphur and a lump of the best unslacked lime of the size of the fist"—(a good large fist, we suppose)—"put these in a vessel of about seven gallons' measurement; let the sulphur be thrown in first, and the lime over it; then pour in a pail of boiling water, stir it well, and let it stand half an hour; then fill the vessel with cold water, and after stirring well, allow the whole to settle. After it has become settled, dip out the clear liquor into a barrel, and fill the barrel with cold water, and it is fit for use. You next proceed with a syringe, holding about a pint and a half, and throw the liquid with it on the vines in every direction, so as completely to cover foliage, fruit and wood. This should be particularly done when the fruit is just forming, and about one-third the size of a pea, and may be continued twice or thrice a week, for two or three weeks. The whole process for 200 grape vines, need not exceed half an hour."

Lice on Dahlias.—Pots of Dahlias from green-houses, are often infested with the green louse: to destroy them, syringe the plants with the same solution as recommended for the grape.

Transactions of the N. Y. State Agricultural Society.—We are indebted to Henry O'Reilly, Esq., Secretary of the New York State Agricultural Society, for the 3d volume of their "Transactions." This is a highly interesting and useful work, and reflects much credit upon the Society, which, in spirit and efficiency, is second to no other of like character in the country. The volume contains 671 large octavo pages, embracing a number of prize essays: one on Insects injurious to Orchards, Gardens, Field Crops, and Domestic Animals, by the late much lamented Willis Gaylord, Esq.; an article on the Diseases and Insects most injurious to the Wheat Crop, by J. J. Thomas; abstracts of the doings of the County Societies, &c. We have marked several articles of interest for publication in the Farmer. New York has more able agricultural writers than any other State in the Union.

MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

EXHIBITION OF FLOWERS.

Saturday, June 8, 1844.

From M. P. Wilder, President of the Society, beautiful specimens of Erica radiata and ampullacæ in pots.

From Wm. E. Carter, a great variety of cut flowers, among which were, Phlomis tuberosa, Baptisia leucophæ, and var. Sophora, Polemonium, new var.; Pæonies, var. Pottsii, Reevesii, and Whitleji; new scarlet Honeysuckle, Fraxinella Dictamus alba, and 3 bouquets.

From Samuel Sweetser, a magnificent plant of Triumph d'Arcole Rose; also, a fine specimen of Cactus speciosissimus.

From Messrs. Hovey & Co., China and other roses, among them the new Crimson Boursault, and Hybrid China Lanzeseur; bouquets.

From J. Breck & Co., Iris of various sorts, Pæonies, Fraxinellas, Pansies, Papaver orientalis, and other perennial flowers; Roses, General Lamarque, Toilette de Roses, new Crimson Boursault, &c.; bouquets.

From John A. Kenrick; Magnolia Macrophylla, a fine specimen; Pæony Whitleji, Azaleas, &c.

From J. L. L. F. Warren, Dahlias, fine Pansies and handsome Seedling Picotees, one variety very fine.

From Samuel Walker, Lychnis angustifolia plena, a very superb new perennial; Spiræ aruncus, and other cut flowers; bouquets.

From Parker Barnes, Honeysuckles, of sorts, cut flowers, and bouquets.

From William Kenrick, Roses, Pæonies, var. Pottsii and Whitleji, &c., Fraxinella, Spireas, Iris, Verbenas, Delphiniums, Geraniums, with a variety of other cut flowers, neatly arranged, in bouquets, baskets, &c.

From Samuel R. Johnson, Yellow Harrison and Red and Yellow Austrian Roses, a fine display.

For the Committee, J. BRECK, *Chm'n.*

EXHIBITION OF FRUITS.

The President of the Society presented 6 boxes with a branch literally loaded with fruit of the Bigarreau de Mai Cherry.

J. F. Allen, Salem, presented Grapes—Black Hamburg, superior Ferral and Bar Sur Aube, very fine; Peaches, Royal George Clingstone; very superior and fine specimens Golden Nectarines; Black Naples Figs, very large and fine.

From Mrs. Howard, Brookline; very fine Black Hamburgh and Sweetwater grapes, and fine specimens of Miller's Burgundy.

From J. L. L. F. Warren, 4 boxes of very fine Early Virginia Strawberries.

From E. K. Whitaker, three boxes of Strawberries.

For the Committee, JOSIAH LOVETT, 2d.

EXHIBITION OF VEGETABLES.

By Thomas Nugent, gardener to Mrs. Howard; a basket of green Peas.

From John Hill, West Cambridge, a basket of green Peas.

For the Committee, JOSEPH BRECK.

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☞Two frames, covered with cotton cloth, as prepared with Whitney's Water-proof Composition, were exhibited by Mr Dutton. This article is getting into extensive use in England, as a substitute for glass, for horticultural purposes, the coverings for hot-beds, and to protect trees, vines and wall fruit from cold, insects, birds, &c.—*Trans.*

Early Virginia Strawberries—We acknowledge the receipt of a box of fine Early Virginia Strawberries from Edgar K. Whitaker, Esq., of Needham, which, with a little sugar and cream, were highly relished. Some difference between these and the sour, decaying things that are sent on from Long Island and New Jersey.

☞The Cincinnati Gazette states that to preserve milk from souring in a thunder storm, it is only necessary to put it in a glass vessel with a glass cover, and set it in a moderately cool place.

☞An English chemist says that if one-quarter of the human urine wasted in London annually, could be saved and judiciously applied to land, it would produce the astonishing quantity of 159,687,500 lbs. of flour, or about 800,000 barrels of flour.

☞MASS. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.

ROSE AND PÆONY EXHIBITION.—In consequence of the unusual early season, the Exhibition of Roses and Herbaceous Pæonies will take place on SATURDAY, June 15th, instead of the 22d inst. as advertised in the schedule of premiums. Exhibitors for premiums must have their flowers in the stands by 10 o'clock, A. M.

JOSEPH BRECK,
Chairman of the Flower Committee.

THERMOMETRICAL.

Reported for the New England Farmer.

Range of the Thermometer at the Gardenof the proprietors of the New England Farmer, Brighton, Mass. in a shaded Northerly exposure, to the week ending June 9.

June, 1844.		7 A.M.	12, M.	5, P.M.	Wind.
Monday,	3	56	63	57	E.
Tuesday,	4	52	73	62	E.
Wednesday,	5	54	78	62	S.
Thursday,	6	58	78	70	E.
Friday,	7	66	72	68	E.
Saturday,	8	57	73	62	N. W.
Sunday,	9	61	72	67	S. E.

BRIGHTON MARKET.—MONDAY, June 10, 1844.

Reported for the N. E. Farmer.

At market 515 Beef Cattle, 10 pairs Working Oxen 900 Sheep and Lambs, and 700 Swine. 90 Beef Cattle unsold.

PRICES.—*Beef Cattle.*—We qoute to correspond with last week, about the same prices were obtained for a like quality. Extra $5,25 a $5,37. First quality $4 88 a 5 12. Second quality $4 50 a 4,75. Third quality, $4,00 a 4,50.

Working Oxen.—Sales $60, 72 and 80.

Sheep and Lambs.—Old Sheep from $2 to 2 75. Lambs from $1 50 to 2 50.

Swine.—Lots to peddle 4 1-2 for sows, and 5 1-2 for barrows. One lot 4 3-4 and 5 3-4. Small pigs for roasters from 7 to 9. At retail from 5 to 6 1-2.

WHOLESALE PRICES CURRENT.

Corrected with great care, weekly.

SEEDS. Herds Grass, (nominal) per bushel. Red Top 00 to 00 cents. Clover—Northern, 0 to 00c.—Southern, 0 a 0 c. Flax Seed. $1 50 per bushel. Lucerne, 33 c. per lb. Canary Seed, $3 00 per bushel.

GRAIN.—There has been a moderate but steady demand for Corn throughout the week, and sales mostly confined to good mealing qualities.

Corn—Northern, new, bushel 52 to 53—Southern, round yellow, old, 50 a 51—Southern flat yellow, new, 48 a 49—do. do. white 48 a 00—do New Orleans, 00 a 00—Barley 00 a 00 —Rye, Northern, 67 a 68—do. Southern, 64 a 65 —Oats, Southern, 00 a 32—Northern do. 35 to 36—Beans, per bushel 1 00 a 1 62.—Shorts, per double bush. 23 a 25—Bran, 17 a 20.

FLOUR.—The market has displayed but little change since the last report; prices are a shade lower, except for the best descriptions, which, at the close, were a little firmer, with some calls for foreign shipment.

Baltimore, Howard Street, 4 mos. cr. $4 75 a 4 78—do wharf, $4 62 a 4 75—do. free of garlic, $4 75 a 4 87—Philadelphia do. 4 mos. $4 62 a 0 00 —Fredericksburg, low l'd 4 mos. $4 62 a 4 75—Alexandria, wharf mountain, 0 00 a 0 00. —Georgetown, $4 75 a 5 00—Richmond Canal, $4 75 a 0 00 —do. City, $0 00 a 0 00—Petersburgh, South side $4 87 a 5 12 —do. Country $4 75 a 0 00—Genesee, common, cash, $4 69 a 4 75— do fancy brands $4 87 a 5 25 — Ohio, via Canal, $0 00 a 0 00—do do New Orleans, cash $4 50 a 4 75. Rye, $3 50 a 0 00—Indian Meal in bbls. $2 87 a 3 00.

PROVISIONS.—There has been a brisk demand for Pork during the week past, and nearly 4000 barrels have changed hands, mostly ordinarily Mess.

Beef—Mess 4 mo. new bbl. $6 50 a 7 00—Navy—$5 75 a 6 25.—No. 1, $5 50 a 5 75—do Prime $0 00 a 0 00—Pork—Extra clear 4 mo. bbl. $00 00 a 00 00—do Clear $9 50 a 11 00 do. Mess, $7 50 a 8 50—do Prime $6 25 a 7 00—do Mess from other States,— a — —do Prime do do $0 00 a 0 00 do. Cargo do. 0 00 a 0 00 —Clear do do $00 00 a 00 00—Butter, shipping, 15 a 18—do store, uninspected, 10 a 12—do dairy, 18 cts. a 20—Lard, No. 1, Boston ins. 00 a 0 —do South and Western, 5½ a 6 — Hams, Boston, 7 a 7½ — Southern and Western, 6 a 6½—Cheese, Ship'g and 4 meal, 3 a 4½ —do new milk, 4½ a 5½.

WOOL. Duty. The value whereof at the place of exportation shall not exceed 7 cts. per pound, 5 per cent. ad val. All whereof the value exceeds 7 cts. per pound, 40 per ct. ad. val. and 3 cts. per pound.

No change in the market. A fair demand exists for all descriptions; and in foreign, 300 bales have been sold within the quoted rates.

Prime or Saxony Fleeces, washed, lb. 45 a 48 c.—American full blood do 43 a 45—Do. 3-4 do 37 a 40—Do. 1-2 do 33 a 35—1-4 and common do 28 a 32 — Smyrna Sheep, washed, 20 a 25— Do. unwashed, 10 a 17 — Bengasi do 6 a13—Saxony, clean, 00—Buenos Ayres unpicked, 7 a 10—do. do. picked, 10 a 15—Superfine Northern pulled lamb 37 a 40—No. 1 do. do. do. 32 a 35—No. 2 do do do 25 a 30—No. 3 do do do 18 a 20.

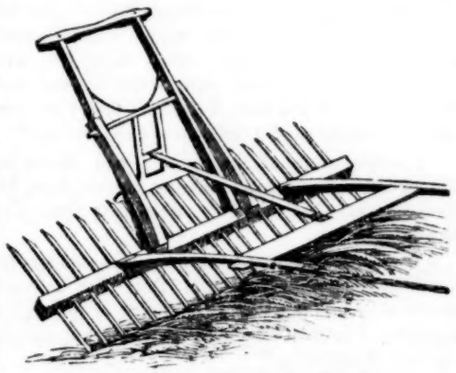
HOPS. Duty 20 per cent.

The English market has slightly improved at the last dates, but sales were very circumscribed; a few bales very superior first sort, Massachusetts inspection, were taken.

1st sort Mass. 1843, lb. 6½ a 7 ; 2d do 4½ a 5.

HAY, 14 to 16 per ton—Eastern Screwed $9 to 10.

EGGS, 12.



REVOLVING HORSE RAKE.

The Revolving Rake, which has been in general use in most parts of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, is found to be one of the most useful and labor saving machines now in use. One man and horse, with a boy to lead, will rake on an average from 25 to 30 acres per day, with ease, and do the work well. They are coming into very general use in all parts of the country, and will, no doubt, in a few years, supersede the use of the common hand rake. There is a great advantage in this rake over all others, as the person using it does not have to stop the horse to unload the rake.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

June 4.

GRAIN CRADLES.

The Grain Cradle is an article which is coming into very general use in the New England States where they were till of late but little known, although they have been in very general use in the southern and western States, for many years, and which is found to be decidedly the best mode of harvesting grain, as it is supposed one man will cradle five acres in a day when he cannot reap more than one. The difference in gathering a crop is so much in favor of cradling, that we must suppose that it will be the only mode adopted hereafter, and the grain cradle will become of as much use, as an implement of husbandry, as the plow now is.

There has been a very great improvement in the manufacturing of this article, they are now made on the most improved plan; the scythe is well secured and finished in a superior manner and made of the best cast steel.

For sale at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store. JOSEPH BRECK & CO,

June 4.

GARDENER'S KNIVES,

And other implements for garden purposes, in great variety and of superior quality. For sale at the N. E. Agricultural Warehouse, No. 51 and 52, N Market Street, by JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

HORTICULTURAL TOOLS.

A few cases of superior Horticultural Tools, for gentlemen or ladies' use. For sale by JOS. BRECK & CO.
51 and 52 North Market Street.

MUCK MANUAL.

The Farmer's Muck Manual, by Dr. S. L. DANA—price 62 1-2 cents, for sale by JOS. BRECK & CO.

ec. 11.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,

NEW ENGLAND
Agricultural Warehouse
AND
SEED STORE.

51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO. having received a full and general assortment of FIELD, GRASS, GARDEN and FLOWER SEEDS, worthy of cultivation, confidently recommend them as being pure and of the first qualities, unmixed with other varieties; they have no hesitation in saying that their collection of Seeds is the best, and of the greatest variety ever offered for sale at any establishment in the U. States.

AGRICULTURAL BOOKS of all kinds, constantly on hand.

AGRICULTURAL AND GARDEN IMPLEMENTS of all kinds, among which are the following, viz :—1000 Howard's Patent Cast Iron Ploughs, 200 Common do. do, 200 Cultivators, 100 Greene's Straw Cutters, 50 Willis' do. do. 100 Common do. do, 100 Willis' Patent Corn Shellers, 50 Common do. do, 200 Willis' Seed Sowers, 50 do. Vegetable Cutters, 50 Common do. do., 200 Hand Corn Mills, 200 Grain Cradles, 100 Ox Yokes, 1500 Doz. Scythe Stones, 3000 do. Austin's Rifles, 100 doz. Cast Steel Shovels, 150 do. Common do. 100 do. Spades, 500 do. Grass Scythes, 300 do. Patent Snaiths, 200 do. Common do., 500 do. Hay Rakes, 200 do. Garden do., 200 do. Manure Forks, 300 do. Hay do. 500 Pair Trace Chains, 100 do, Truck do. 100 do Draft do, 500 do. Tie up do, 50 doz. Halter do, 1000 yards Fence do, 25 Grind Stones on Rollers.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.,
N. E. Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston.

CHRYSANTHEMUMS, VERBENAS, DOUBLE DAHLIAS, &C.

The subscribers can furnish 25 varieties of the finest *CHRYSANTHEMUMS*, mostly new sorts, at $3 per dozen, or 50 cents per plant for some extra fine new sorts.

VERBENAS. The many varieties of this showy flower add much to the brilliancy of the flower garden, as they continue in bloom from June to November. They can be furnished at a low rate, embracing white, pink, purple, lilac, scarlet, crimson, and many intermediate shades and variations, at $2 per dozen, when the selection is made by us,—or $3 per dozen for some of the choicest new sorts.

DOUBLE DAHLIAS. We can furnish this gorgeous flower to any extent, and of the most splendid varieties from 3 to $12 per dozen. The time of planting is fast approaching, and those who wish to ornament their grounds with this flower should send in their orders soon. The first of June is in season to plant them out. We can forward them safely in pots to any part of the country.

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

Boston, May 13, 1844.

FARM FOR SALE.

One of the most pleasant situations in the middle of the town of Pepperell—the farm of the late Rev. James Howe, containing 44 acres of first rate land, well divided into mowing, tillage, pasturing and wood land, well watered and fenced, with a two story house and two barns, one 36 by 40 feet, with a cellar under the same, and all other convenient out buildings. There are a variety of fruit trees on the farm. *Terms easy.* For further particulars inquire of SETH NASON, on the premises, or to JOSEPH BRECK & CO., 51 and 52 North Market Street, Boston. April 20.

FINE BONE MANURE.

The subscribers have on hand, Fifty Barrels of fine pulverised Bone Manure, mixed with the marrow of the bone. It was produced from a manufactory when the bone was sawed in a wet state. It must be a very valuable article.

Also, Fifty Barrels fine Bone Dust, in a dry state, principally saw dust, and the refuse of a manufactory.

March 20, 1844. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

SCYTHES, &C.

SCYTHES, RIFLES, and SNAITHS, of the most approved kinds, for sale low, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, 51 and 52 North Market Street. JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

CULTIVATORS.

A lot of prime Cultivators, for sale cheap at the N. E. Agricultural Warehouse, 51 and 52 North Market Street.
JOS. BRECK & CO.

HOES.

The best kind in the Market. For sale by
JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

LACTOMETERS.

A simple instrument for testing the quality of milk. For sale at the N. E. Farmer Office. JOS. BRECK & CO.

MISCELLANEOUS.

"A Thousand Notable Things on Various Subjects—*disclosed from the Secrets of Nature and Art—Practicable, Profitable, and of Great Advantage.*"

[We have thought a few more extracts from this unique book, might be acceptable to our readers. Here is one of the "Notable Things" which, in our view, is decidedly "rich":—]

"It is credibly reported that whosoever is sick, and at the point of Death, though they be marvellous old, lying or being in a certain part of *Ireland*, the same party *cannot die, until he or she be removed out of that place.* Many that have lived there, being very old and weary of their lives, have earnestly desired to be removed from thence, which being done, they have died presently. *A very strange thing, if it be true.*"

"If you stamp Lupines, (which are to be had at the Apothecaries) and therewith rub round about the bottom or lower part of any tree, no Ants or Pismires will go up or touch the said tree."

"Stop both your Ears with your fingers, or drink a glass of fair Water, and the Hiccup will go away within a while."

"The roots of Elder, stewed and strained, and drank thirty days together, thrice every day, at morning, noon, and night, doth cure the Dropsy perfectly."

"The Black Sea Coal, mixed with Oil, will be made soft; wherewith if one anoint Vines, it will destroy Worms, which destroy or eat the buds of the Vines."

"If the leaves of Elder, first made hot between two Tile Stones, and applied hot to the Forehead and the Temples, if any Pain lie there, it helpeth it marvellous. *This is well proved.*"

"Put an old Gander in a house, and let him be three days without meat, then cast unto him pieces of an Eel newly killed; then gather the dung that comes from him after he hath eaten the pieces of the Eel, which dung being laid to an Imposthume or Swelling, is a present remedy therefor."

"If you would destroy Warts, cut off the head of a live Eel, and rub the Warts all over well with the same blood, as it runs from the Eel; then bury the said Eel deep in the ground, and when the Head is rotten, they will fall away. *Another.*—Take of the Juice of Elder Berries, and anoint Warts therewith, and it will destroy them."

"To draw out a Tooth. Fill an Earthen Pot with Emmets or Ants and their Eggs, and set the same pot in hot embers until all be burned into ashes, and when any Tooth doth ache, which you would draw forth without pain, then take of the same powder and touch the Tooth therewith, and it will fall out within a little time."

"Take of the Grease of Swine or Hog, and rub therewith the Body of any that is sick, against the Heart or Soles of his Feet, then give that Grease to a Dog, which if he eat, the Party will escape; if not, it is a token that he will die thereof."

"This following will help them that be deaf. Take a piece of green Elm or Ash, and lay it in the fire, and receive the Water that cometh out of the ends thereof; then take a spoonful of the Grease of an Eel that is red beneath the navel; boil all these together a little, and put it into a glass, and when he goeth to bed, put some into his Ear, lukewarm, and in two or three days he will be whole, and hear well. *Proved.*"

"A Ram will not butt nor run at one, if his Horns be bored through, nigh unto his Ears."

"Whosoever, in the first nine days in May, drinks every morning, fasting, a little dish-full of the Juice of Betony, it will do him marvellous much good for the Gout, (God willing,) which he shall perceive the next year following, if he live so long."

"A little Gunpowder put into a piece of fine Linen Cloth, and the same put into the Hollow Tooth, or holden between the Teeth so that it touch the Aching Tooth, it puts away the ache presently. *This is very true.*" [The cure would be more perfect, probably, if a lighted match were applied to the powder.]

"Write what you will on White Paper with the Juice of a Red Onion, well mixed and tempered with the White of an Egg, which being dry, will appear as though it were plain Paper without any Writing; but if you hold it against the Fire, you may then easily read it, or perceive the letters."

"Pottage made of the Leaves and Roots of Strawberries, being eaten, fasting, certain days, by them that have the Jaundice, doth help them perfectly."

"Black Sheep's Wool, mixed and chafed by the fire with fresh Butter, and the Deaf Ear stopped therewith at night, and thus used nine or ten nights together, it helpeth Deafness perfectly and speedily. *A proved thing.*"

"For the Cramp. Dry Eel Skins and wrap them about the Legs and Thighs."

"If you do gather Roses when they be fully ripe, and immediately cut away the new tops and uppermost branches of that year, you shall have new and fresh Roses grow the same year, about Michaelmas. *I know this to be true.*"

"The Roots of Hollyhocks stamped and mixed with the Grease of an old Hog, and plastered to the Gout, helpeth it in three or four days. *I never tried this: therefore, as it proves, so praise it.*"

"Aristotle and Avicen do affirm, that of the round and short Egg, the *Cock* Chicken doth come; of the long and sharp Egg, the *Hen* Chicken." [This has been published in the papers recently as a new discovery.]

"The more lively and quick that a Horse is, the more deep he will thrust his Nose into the Water when he drinks."

"Young Children whose Gums are anointed with the brain of a Hare, do breed their Teeth easily."

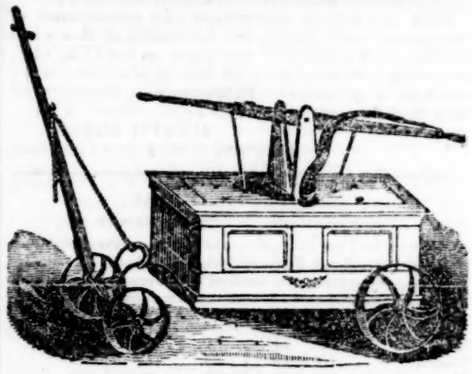
"The unpleasant noise of Frogs in the night will cease, if you set a candle burning on the bank side nigh where they be."

"When you are where Stinks are, open your Mouth, and breathe there through, and you shall not smell it, nor receive prejudice by it."

"For Bed-bugs. Take a handful of Wormwood and White Hellebore, and boil them in Urine till half is wasted, and rub your bedstead with it."

"Any Stones will easily be made soft, by letting them lie all night in the Blood of an Ox, the Fat of a Wether, and strong Vinegar, mixed together."

"If you take Salt Water and rub a lousy Head with it, it kills the Lice."



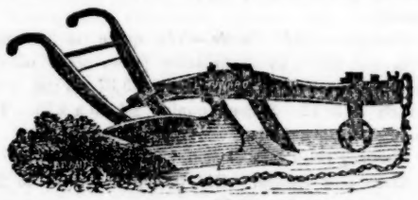
SAYLE'S GARDEN ENGINES.

A splendid article, will throw a constant stream of water to the distance of 50 to 60 feet, with great force, and in case of fire would be a substitute for a fire engine. The most perfect article for the purpose ever introduced.

For sale at the Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store Nos. 51 and 52, North Market Street.

JOS. BRECK & CO.

Boston, June 4.



HOWARD'S IMPROVED EASY DRAUGHT PLOUGH.

Great improvements have been made the past year in the form and workmanship of these Ploughs; the mould board has been so formed as to *lay the furrow completely over, turning in every particle of grass or stubble, and leaving the ground in the best possible manner.* The length of the mould board has been very much increased, so that the Plough works with the greatest ease, both with respect to the holding and the team. The Committee at the late trial of Ploughs at Worcester, say,

"Should our opinion be asked as to which of the Ploughs we should prefer for use on a farm, we might perhaps say to the inquirer, if your land is mostly light and easy to work, try Prouty & Mears, but if your *land is heavy, hard orrocky,* BEGIN WITH MR. HOWARD'S."

At the above mentioned trial the Howard Plough *did more work, with the same power of team, than any other plough exhibited.* No other turned more than twentyseven and one half inches, to the 112 lbs. draught, while the *Howard Plough turned twentynine and one half inches, to the same power of team!* All acknowledge that Howard's Ploughs are much the strongest and most substantially made.

There has been quite an improvement made on the shoe, or land side of this Plough, which can be renewed without having to furnish a new landside; this shoe likewise secures the mould board and landside together, and strengthens the Plough very much.

The price of the Ploughs is from $6 to $15. A Plough sufficient for breaking up with four cattle, will cost about $10 50, and with cutter $1, with wheel and cutter, $2 50 extra.

The above Ploughs are for sale, wholesale and retail, at the New England Agricultural Warehouse and Seed Store, Nos. 51 & 52 North Market Street, by

JOSEPH BRECK & CO.

NEW ENGLAND FARMER

A WEEKLY PAPER.

Terms, $2 per year *in advance,* or $2 50 if not paid within sixty days.

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